(a) whether there is any proposal before the government to generate Nuclear Power in the coastal region of Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the present position of the scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Kaiga Power Plant

3850. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the time by which the Kaiga Power Plant likely to become functional; and

(b) the other details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b) The Kaiga Atomic Power Project consists of 2 units of capacity 220 MWe each. As of now, all activities other than dome construction are in an advanced stage, with an overall physical progress of around 82%. In respect of IC dome of Kaiga unit-2, Design basis report has been approved by the regulatory authority. Steel support structure for I.C. Dome construction has been erected. Installation of wooden form work is expected to be completed by end March 1997. Mock-up for portion of dome near steam generator openings is expected to be completed by end March, 1997. Concreting of I.C. Dome is scheduled to be completed by June 1997.

As regards Kaiga Unit-1, Design Basis Report (DBR) for re-engineering work of I.C. Dome Is expected to be submitted by end March 1997 to the regulatory authority for approval. After the approval of the regulatory authority is received for the DBR, design report will be submitted to regulatory authority by end April 1997. Clearance for the design report is expected in September, 1997 and the I.C. Dome construction is scheduled in October 1997. Most of the major equipments have been installed and testing and commissioning activities of certain systems have been started. Round and clock work will be carried out in the area of inner containment dome construction, nuclear piping and other critical areas of construction. With concerned efforts, Kaiga units-2&1 are expected to achieved criticality in May, 1998 and November 1998 respectively.

R And D Cess

3851. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS :
SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI

Will the Minister of SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount accumulated in the R&D Cess Fund during the last three years;

(b) whether any loan is given from this fund for indigenous technology projects;

(c) if so, the total amount so disbursed;

(d) whether the Government proposes to give more autonomy to R&D Cess Board; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and likely benefits for according more autonomy to this Board ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI. YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) The cess collected under the Research and Development Cess Act, 1986 (as amended in 1995) during the last three years is as follows :

	Rs. (in crores)
1993-94	60.73
1994-95	71.42
1995-96	81.41

(b) and (c) The proceeds of the Cess are first credited to the Consolidated Fund of India. Central Government makes funds available as appropriated by Parliament to the Technology Development Board (TDB) which was constituted in September, 1996 under the Technology Development Board Act, 1995. The Board includes representatives from Ministry of science and Technology, Departments of Expenditure, Industrial Development, Rural Development and persons having experience in technology development and application, banking and finance, industry, agrlculture and rural development. The Board provides equity capital and financial assistance to industrial concerns and other agencies attempting development and commercial application of indigenous technology or adapting imported technology to wider domestic applications under the provisions of the Act. No disbursement has been made by the Board as 62 applications received are evaluated. The applications cover areas such as Agriculture, Medical, Electricals & Electronics, Rural Development, Biofertilisers & Biopesticides, Chemicals, Civil & Mechanical Engineering, Transport and Energy.

(d) and (e) The functioning of the Board is governed